

Printers Ink Still Sticks to Fingers

Gervais Priest Looks Back Upon Reporter's Job With No Regrets

By Lillie L. Madsen

From police reporter to parish priest seems a long step. From Chicago's Northside police reporter on the Tribune to parish priest at Gervais, makes the step even wider. But "Butch" Doherty V is now the Rev. Martin H. Doherty, having taken the North American college in Rome in his stride.

After laying down "The House on Humility Street" which I had begun reading without even knowing an Oregonian had written it, I decided I must see this phenomenal outgrowth of the world of policehood and newspaperdom from one of Chicago's wilder wild sections.

I found Fr. Doherty seated at his desk amidst mountains of books, papers, chairs, tables, what-nots, piled in the center of the floor, serenely writing away while decorators were papering and painting about him. That, thought I at once, is the Chicago newspaper training.

"This is just business writing," he explained. "I really write most and like to write best at night. Worked on a morning paper, you know."

"But don't you miss it? Chicago, Rome, then Gervais? Seems sort of stretching the point a bit," I marveled.

"No," he smiled, "I can say I actually miss it or have missed it. I still write and I like to write."

Then I recalled brief paragraphs from his first book. Perhaps almost unconsciously they give indication of his reasons for "that something about Gervais" which he liked best.

Of Chicago he wrote: "I could not kill a rabbit. The sight of blood sickens me. The squalor and nastiness of Chicago drives, the noise of incessant carnival, the forced gaiety and the glaring trumperies, the bright lights and the dim ones, all these things would drive me straight to an asylum if I had to endure them for any great length of time."

During his time as police reporter in Chicago he had the most amazing dreams of the beauty and romance of far distant Rome. When he had actually seen Rome, he wrote of it:

**Rome Disappointment**

"But what had happened to Rome? Surely this was not the Eternal City. This street looked quite like hideous Fullerton avenue back in Chicago Logan Square. I had been looking at such streets as this as long as I could remember. Stores, theatres, hotels, restaurants, a few modern churches. Row upon row of commercial buildings—and every one of them painted yellow. So this was Rome! The real Rome, without a doubt, but so different from the Rome of our imaginations."

Then of Gervais he says:

"The rain has been beating against my window and pounding on my roof for hours. I begin to believe that the entire Pacific has been lifted to the skies and spilled upon my roof and doopseus—I am fortunate in having a great fireplace in the living room of my rectory. It is a very old-fashioned building connected with one of the oldest churches in French Prairie and it stands on the outskirts of the little town of Gervais."

Those who may have missed "The House on Humility Street" which was published by Longmans, Green and Co., in 1942, would do well to go back and pick it up. Critics did not overdo at all when they spoke of its "terse, lively style."

**Second Book Due**

This autumn, Doherty's second book, a novel, "By Way of San Francisco," will be published by Bruce of Milwaukee. It is a family story with its beginning in San Francisco in 1896. The author took over a year in writing and in research to make sure of incidents and dates in the 80,000 word book. Father Doherty was born in Chicago where his father, "Butch"



REV. MARTIN DOHERTY

Doherty was a high police official. Young Martin Doherty became known as Butch V when he entered his work as police reporter. The other "Butches" were the father, and three older brothers: Edward, now feature writer on the Chicago Sun and for Liberty; Frank, police reporter with the Sun; James, political writer on the Tribune.

There are also William, Time's reporter, and Tom, Herald reporter.

The two sisters are Kathleen, who is in the clerical department of Chicago courts, and Irene, a teacher. While his father has been dead for some years, his mother still lives in Chicago and with her two daughters spent the summer at Gervais.

The idea of the priesthood first entered young "Butch" Doherty's head while he, to quote: "reported every squirm of the hapless animals caught in the police court trap. Our public demanded it, so all night long we gathered our accounts of murders, rapes and robberies, of holdups, shakedowns and graft."

To Dr. Eugene Lawrence Hargan, "a humanitarian who dropped in almost every night to talk with us" he gives actual credit for his decision: "He's dead now, but he'll live so long as I live because so far as I know, my present life is entirely the result of his kindly and generous sound advisements."

It was the late Archbishop Alexander Christie of Portland who finally accepted Doherty's sponsorship in Rome and paid his room and school expenses there. In turn, Doherty guaranteed that the rest of his life would be given to priestly labors in Archbishop Christie's archdiocese.

After his studies in Rome, Doherty returned to St. Paul seminary where he was ordained priest of the Catholic church on June 13, 1926. The following week he was back in newspaper business "covering" the Eucharistic congress in Chicago for the Chicago Evening Post.

Finally, he came on to Oregon, where his permanent work was to

# Mid-Willamette Valley News

From The Statesman's Community Correspondents

## Amity Women Visit Family

Mrs. W. E. Yarns Takes Son to Station After Leave

AMITY—Mr. and Mrs. Cliff Munkers of Cutler City were guests at the home of his sister, Bertha Munkers and other relatives.

Mrs. W. E. Yarns and daughter, Mrs. Ethel Farmer and Mrs. W. E. Yarns, jr., took W. E. Yarns, jr., torpedoman's mate second class US navy to Seattle after his leave. Mrs. Yarns and daughter visited a few days in Seattle and other places in Washington with relatives.

Mr. and Mrs. Val Guilds of Sheridan and Mr. and Mrs. W. H. Colgan of Amity, Mrs. Guilds' parents, drove to Portland Tuesday. Rev. and Mrs. G. E. Gillespie and Paul, and Mrs. J. A. Breeding and Mrs. A. W. Newby were among those from Amity who attended the Central Willamette Baptist association Tuesday in Salem.

Alfred Whitney who has been in Anchorage, Alaska for the last three years visited his aunt and uncle, Mr. and Mrs. G. E. Clark, Monday.

## Mill City Host To Convention

MILL CITY—The Mill City Presbyterian church will be host Sunday for the Santiam district Sunday school convention. The theme of the convention will be "Prayer" and the text—Acts 1, 14.

Regular Sunday school and church services will be held with Rev. Aaron Wolfe, local pastor in charge. At 12:30 a basket dinner will be served and the afternoon program will start at 1:30 with a song service. The devotional service will be led by Rev. Wolfe and the business meeting will be in charge of Leland Keittly, district president.

The convention address will be by Rev. V. L. Loucks of Scio and the closing remarks by Rev. Cookingham. Others taking part will be Rev. Gene Robinson of Turner, Rev. Willard Buckner of Stayton, Mr. and Mrs. George Clippell of Lyons, and Alice Smith of Mill City. Special numbers will be presented by the Turner Methodist church.

be. Five years he was stationed at Estacada, before, in 1939, he came to Gervais.

And while, says he, "no amount of money could hire me to go back to live in Chicago, once a newspaper man always a newspaper man. I seem to get involved in 'covering' many a Catholic event in Oregon and elsewhere."

Gervais itself is very proud of its celebrity.

## Valley Calendar

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 6  
Sunnyside Community club, 8 p.m.  
Silverton PTA teachers reception.  
Jefferson Missionary society of the Christian church.  
Salem Heights Women's club, 2 p.m.  
Community hall.  
Maclesay grange, 8 p.m. grange hall.

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 7  
Quarterly convention Marion county Farmers Union in Salem.

## Silverton-Mt. Angel To Hold Benefit

SILVERTON—Because the state does not appropriate sufficient funds, the Mt. Angel cavalry, assisted by the Silverton state guard and the Legion posts from the two towns will give a Thanksgiving Eve dance at the Silverton armory. Fred Prosser is head of the Mt. Angel group and F. M. Powell, captain of the guard at Silverton, is in charge of local arrangements.

All funds will be used to purchase wood for the armory. State guard members spent Tuesday night scrubbing and cleaning the local armory as it has been turned over to their care, Mr. Powell reports.

## Red Cross Sewing Held

JEFFERSON—Sewing for the Red Cross Tuesday in the city hall was attended by ten women. This was the first meeting, and quite a lot of work was done.

## Returns Home From Nebraska

AUMSVILLE—Mrs. Rose Lederer, who accompanied her grandson, Tommy Skoglund, back to his home at Wassu, Nebr., arrived here at the home of her sister, Mrs. O. L. Brubaker, Tuesday. She will make her home in Oregon.

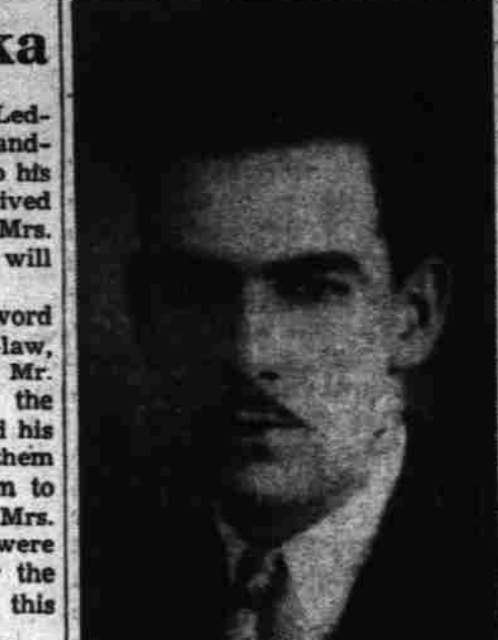
C. D. Boone has received word of the death of his brother-in-law, Thomas Smith of Portland. Mr. and Mrs. Smith visited at the Boone home here recently and his death came as a shock to them since they had considered him to be in fairly good health. Mrs. Boone has been ill and they were unable to go to Portland for the funeral. She is improving at this date.

Mrs. J. E. Mountain of Albany has written relatives here that her daughter, Mrs. Mildred Strunk has gone to Marshfield to work in a photographer's studio. They are former residents of this place.

## Seattle Couple Visit Bethel Relatives

BETHEL—Mr. and Mrs. A. C. Spranger have had as their guests for a week his brother-in-law and sister, Mr. and Mrs. A. E. Sykes and Mrs. A. E. Sykes, jr., all of Seattle. A. E. Sykes is superintendent of the Associated Oil plant there and this is his first vacation in three years. A. E. Sykes, jr., is in the service and soon due to come home on leave.

## New School Head



LEBANON—James W. King, superintendent of schools in Lebanon since last March. He succeeded M. E. Coe, now with the state vocational education department at Salem. King is a graduate of Pacific university and took graduate work at the University of Oregon. He came here from LaGrande and has had 15 years experience in Oregon.

## Independence Woman's Club Meets Tuesday

OAK POINT—Independence Rural Woman's club will hold its first fall meeting Tuesday afternoon Oct. 10 at the home of Mrs. C. C. Comstock, with Mrs. Orley Brown as co-hostess.

## Falls City Has Many Guests

FALLS CITY—Mr. and Mrs. Harry Stan of Valsez were guests of Dave Grant Sunday.

Otto Teal broke his arm in two places the first of the week.

The members of the WCTU and three guests met at the Christian church basement Tuesday for a covered dish dinner and meeting. They tied a quilt for the Children's Farm Home and plan to refurbish a room in one of the girls' cottages for a Thanksgiving project.

Mrs. Burt Curtiss and children of Dallas were guests of her sister, Mr. and Mrs. John Calavan.

The young people of the Christian church met at the home of the pastor, Rev. Dale Harter, Saturday. Mrs. Harter is the Christian Endeavor advisor.

The Falls City mill, owned by William Fern, has been sold to the Dallas mill. It provides a right of way to the Dallas mill's lumber. The Falls City mill is closed and several men are out of work at present.

Mrs. John Calavan surprised her husband with a birthday dinner at the Laura Horn home Tuesday. Invited guests were Mr. and Mrs. Richard Paul, Mrs. B. Y. Allen and Jimmie and Mrs. Horn.

## Silverton Couple Home From Canadian Visit

SILVERTON—Mr. and Mrs. L. Kindblat returned Wednesday from a 10-day trip to British Columbia where they were guests of his brother.

Mr. and Mrs. Lars Opedahl have returned from a vacation at Ocean Park, Wash., where they were guests of Mr. and Mrs. John Mc-

## Signed Up



Kathleen O'Malley (above), 20-year-old red-headed daughter of the former silent film actor, Pat O'Malley, has been signed to a screen contract by Universal studio where her father won his first film role 26 years ago. (AP wirephoto).

Bride (Althea Opedahl), their granddaughter, and with Mr. and Mrs. O. G. Larson (Martha Opedahl) at Portland.

## Bride



Miss Betty Jane Race (above), 17, and Mickey Rooney, film star, now a private in the army, were married at Birmingham, Ala. Miss Race was "Miss Birmingham" of 1944 in the Atlantic City pageant. (AP wirephoto)

# Warner's CAPITOL

PHONE 1050

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